CALL FOR PAPERS

Responsible Innovation for High-tech Agriculture: Social-Ethical issues in Smart Farming Technologies

Call for papers for a Special Issue of Journal of Agricultural and Environmental Ethics

Guest Editors
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Context and Aims

This special issue of Journal of Agricultural and Environmental Ethics aims to explore the way responsible innovation for climate smart agriculture can be achieved. How can the framework of responsible innovation shed a new light on social-ethical issues in smart farming technologies – both in animal farming and in agriculture more generally? General questions to be addressed are the following: What are particular social-ethical issues related to high-tech agriculture? Does the concept of responsible innovation help to identify and solve social-ethical issues in high-tech agriculture? Does the application of responsible innovation frameworks help to better embed smart farming technologies in society?

Particular themes and questions that may be addressed are the following:

1. The human - animal relationship:
   • How does high-tech agriculture change the relationship between humans and animals?
   • What responsibilities do farmers have and what responsibilities lie with the consumer or citizen?
   • Do smart farming technologies, Precision Livestock Farming and the digitalisation of agriculture turn animals into objects?

2. Agricultural perspectives:
   • Do smart farming technologies imply industrial farming, or can organic farmers also benefit from them?
   • Can the RI framework deal with disagreements surrounding the use of genetically modified crops?

3. Value conflicts:
   • What value conflicts arise from the implementation of high technology in agriculture and how should we deal with them?

4. Welfare & One Health:
   • What role can smart technology play in the improvement of animal welfare?
   • How can the One Health framework be applied in high-tech agriculture?

Contributions are invited to reflect on these and other issues from various perspectives (e.g. responsible innovation, technology assessment, animal welfare, environmental ethics etc.). The full call for papers is available upon request (vincent.blok@wur.nl).
Submission Process and Deadlines

Papers will be reviewed following the JAGE double-blind review process. Papers should be submitted by the March 15th, 2017 deadline (www.editorialmanager.com/jage/default.aspx) with clear reference to the special issue ‘Responsible Innovation for High-tech Agriculture’. Papers should be prepared using the JAGE Guidelines. As soon as the papers are accepted for publication, they will be published and accessible online. The publication of the complete special volume is scheduled for November 2017. The editors welcome informal enquiries related to proposed topics. For this, please contact Vincent Blok (vincent.blok@wur.nl).

Special Issue Workshop

To help authors advance their manuscripts, a Special Issue Workshop will be held in December 2016 in Wageningen, The Netherlands. Authors of manuscripts are invited to submit their working papers. The editorial team will assign a referee among the guest editors for each paper presented, with the intention of strengthening the papers prior to official submission for peer review for potential inclusion in the special issue. The deadline to submit working papers for the workshop in Wageningen is November 15th, 2016 to Vincent Blok (vincent.blok@wur.nl). Participation in the workshop is encouraged, but not a precondition for submissions to the special issue.

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